10/588540 IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 AUG 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tomokazu KANAMARU et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2006-1293A

Filed August 7, 2006

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[Corresponding to PCT/JP2005/001833

Filed February 8, 2005]

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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

	[X]	each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
	[]	each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/; and/or
	[]	each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.
1a.	[X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:	
	within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or	

10/588540

IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 AUG 2006

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b.	[] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted
	after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:
	(1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
	(2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
1c.	[] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:
	after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
	the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

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the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

- a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

 Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

 counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
 the Statement, or
- b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

10/588540IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 AUG 2006

- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. [X] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. [X] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page 2,
 - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. [X] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

US 6,088,727 corresponds to JP 10-187638

5. [X] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tomokazu KANAMARU et al.

Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145 Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krg Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 August 7, 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE APENEREC' OPCT Sheet 1 of 1 FORM PTO 1449 (modified) ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. 2006-1293A **NEW** U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **APPLICANT** Tomokazu KANAMARU et al. LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) GROUP **FILING DATE** Date Submitted to PTO: August 7, 2006 August 7, 2006 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS *EXAMINER DATE CLASS SUBCLASS DOCUMENT NAME FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE INITIAL NUMBER N.N./AA 6,088,727 7/2000 Hosokawa et al. AB AC AD ΑE AF AG AΗ ΑI FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS DOCUMENT CLASS SUBCLASS TRANSLATION DATE COUNTRY NUMBER YES NO AJ 10-187638 7/1998 JΡ /V.N./ /V.N./ ΑK 2001-22599 1/2001 JP abstract ΑL /V.N./ 10-63511 3/1998 JP abstract /V.N./2003-178036 **AM** 6/2003 JP /V.N./ 2002-24039 1/2002 JP AN AO 2002-94912 3/2002 /V.N./ JP OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) AP AQ /Van Nguyen/ 02/16/2010 **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy this form with next communication to applicant.